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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Ryoichi Fukumoto et al.

Application No.: 10/780,675

Filing Date: February 19, 2004

Title: SLIDE DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING DEVICE FOR VEHICLES

Group Art Unit: 3634

Examiner: Unassigned

Confirmation No.: 1991

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.

☐ Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the ☐ \$65.00 (2814) ☐ \$130.00 (1814) fee per
Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.

☐ Also enclosed is/are _____

☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.

☐ Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the
☐ \$395.00 (2801) ☐ \$790.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).

☐ Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered.
Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.

☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted _____

_____ on _____,
for which continued examination is requested.

☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____,
which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.

☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also
enclosed.

- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

| AMENDED CLAIMS | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--|--------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | No. of Claims | Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For | Extra Claims | Rate | Additional Fee |
| Total Claims | 12 | MINUS 20 = | 0 | x \$50.00 (1202) = | \$ 0.00 |
| Independent Claims | 1 | MINUS 3 = | 0 | x \$200.00 (1201) = | \$ 0.00 |
| If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$360.00 (1203) | | | | | |
| Total Claim Amendment Fee | | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee | | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT | | | | | \$ 0.00 |

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.
- ☐ Charge _____ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

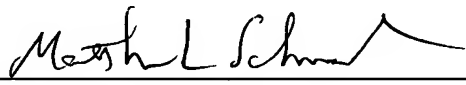
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

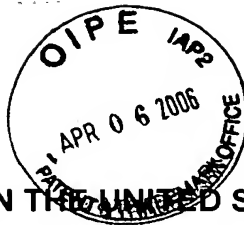
Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

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Date: April 6, 2006

By 
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Registration No. 32,814



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Ryoichi Fukumoto et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 3634 |
| Application No.: 10/780,675 |) | Examiner: Unassigned |
| Filed: February 19, 2004 |) | Confirmation No.: 1991 |
| For: SLIDE DOOR OPENING AND |) | |
| CLOSING DEVICE FOR VEHICLES |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 6, 2006, the following remarks are submitted.

The aforementioned Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to three different species. As identified in the Official Action, the three species are as follows.

Group I species shown in Figs. 1-5

Group II species depicted in Fig. 6.

Group III species illustrated in Fig. 7.

Based on the observation that the three species are distinct from one another, an election of species requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the three species.

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the Group I species shown in Figs. 1-5. Claims 1-12 are readable on the elected species.